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ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. William H. Webster Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Webster:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Law Enforcement, is currently in the process of developing an intelligence unit. One segment of this unit will concentrate on the development and tracking of foreign intelligence to reflect the Service's increasing concentration on illegal international activity.

In many of our operations, we develop intelligence concerning the illegal commercialization of wildlife and wildlife products in other countries, especially if those products will enter United States markets or if United States entities are involved in the illegal trafficking of such commodities. Some of the intelligence relates directly to our primary investigative function, but other information is developed that relates to other illegal activity or targets under investigation by other agencies.

We would like to manage this information with the aid of a computer system. We have experimented with different programs and methods of entering information and have limited success. Several concerns are: linking certain criminal activity with specific individuals by establishing common associates, methods of operation or other commonalities; tracking goods that frequently change hands, especially if there is foreign involvement; and the ability to search or manipulate text.

Frequently, the focus of our investigations or operations involve sensitive issues or controversial or political individuals and the information developed must be safeguarded by reliable computer security features that can partition the data into different levels of accessibility. We have been analyzing different systems and programs and have not found one that encompasses all of our requirements.

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I have presented a general summary of what we are interested in accomplishing and some of the current problems we are facing. I would like to know if your agency could provide some assistance with this project. We have contacted several other agencies and it has been suggested that we discuss the matter with the Central Intelligence Agency.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

C. R. Bavin

Chief, Division of Law Enforcement